



Facilities Management Advisory Board - CATERING GROUP

Astley Ainsley Hospital  
133 Grange Loan  
EDINBURGH  
EH9 2HL



10 February 2006

Country Of Origin Consultation point R259  
Pentland House  
47 Robb's Loan  
EDINBURGH  
EH14 1TY

Dear Sir/Madam

**Consultation Paper: Country of Origin of Beef in the Food Service Sector**

I write on behalf of FMAB Catering Group members with regards to the consultation document and thank you for giving us the opportunity to be consulted. However, we have two main areas of concern.

**4.15.3 - placing 'a card on the tray or trolleys indicating the source of beef used'**

- We feel the intention is to inform the consumer of the origin of the beef to allow the customer to make an informed choice. Placing a card on the patient's tray after ordering will not allow this.
- Cards on trays/trolleys could be misplaced in ward areas and may be found at a later date and display incorrect information. Failure to display information correctly would be an infringement of the Food Labelling Regulations which may lead to prosecution.

**- 'Fixing posters to relevant places in the building'**

- Posters displays unless formally managed could result in information being displayed incorrectly, again a possible infringement of the Food Labelling Regulations.

Current European Tendering Legislation applicable to NHS Scotland does not allow the specification to state only Scottish sourced meat can be supplied. Our suggestion would be to include on Patient Information Leaflet/Menu Card *'We source our meat from the European Union'* as suggested in literature endorsed by Quality Meat Scotland.

**4.17 - the requirement applies only to dishes made from fresh, chilled or frozen beef.**

- It therefore does not apply to dishes containing processed beef or products containing beef. This consultation document would not apply to those areas within the NHS where the food is 'out-sourced' in Delivered Meal Systems/ Cook-Chill or Cook- Freeze Units that purchase ready made processed food.

We feel it is as important that we, as professional caterers and consumers, are made aware of the origins of beef within processed dishes served to all consumers within the NHS.

We feel the proposal as they stand would cause concern regarding the practicality of implementing the proposed legislation in its current format.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on this paper and hope these comments are helpful.

We would be happy to discuss any of these comments further.

Yours sincerely



PP  
Mrs Myra Keenan  
Group Chairman

# COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF BEEF IN THE FOOD SERVICE RESPONDEE INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the details below and attach it with your response. This will help ensure we handle your response appropriately:

Name: JANICE GILLAN

Postal Address: CATERING MANAGER, CROSSHOUSE HOSPITAL, KILMARNOCK  
AIRSHIRE, KA20BE

Consultation title: **Country of Origin of Beef in the Food Service Sector**

1. Are you responding as: (please tick one box)

- (a) an individual  (go to 2a/b)
- (b) **on behalf of a group or organisation**  (go to 2c)

## 2a. INDIVIDUALS:

Do you agree to your response being made available to the public (in SE library and/or on SE website)?

- Yes (go to 2b below)
- No, not at all

2b. Where *confidentiality is not requested*, we will make your response available to the public on the following basis (**please tick one** of the following boxes)

- Yes, make my response, name and address all available
- Yes, make my response available, but not my name or address
- Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address

## 2c. ON BEHALF OF GROUPS OR ORGANISATIONS:

Your name and address as respondees *will be* made available to the public (in the SE library and/or on SE website). Are you content for your response to be made available also?

- Yes
- No

## SHARING RESPONSES/FUTURE ENGAGEMENT

3. We will share your response internally with other SE policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for the Scottish Executive to contact you again in the future in relation to this consultation response?

- Yes  No